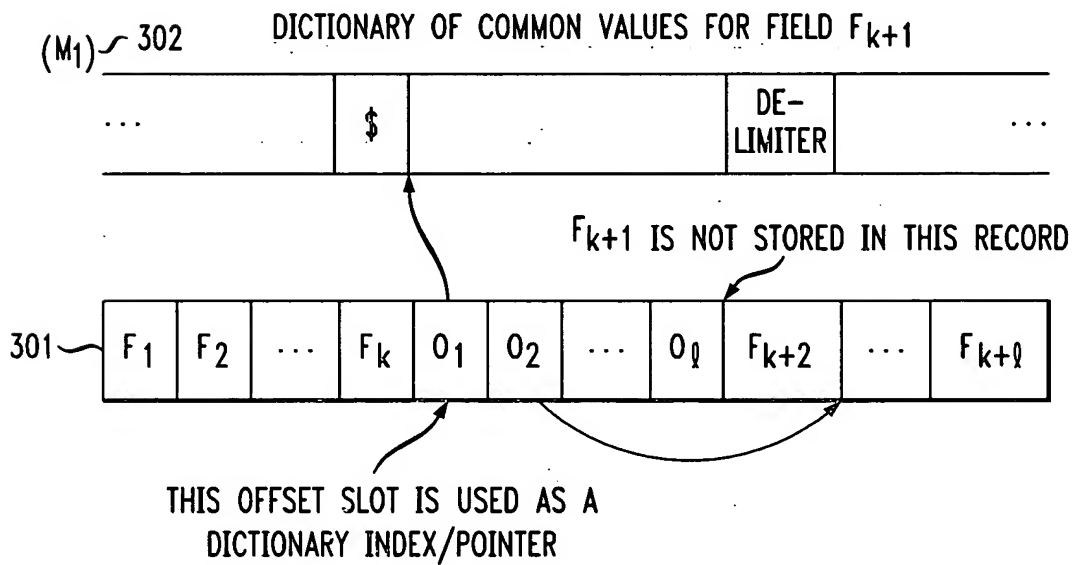


[illegible]





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FIG. 4

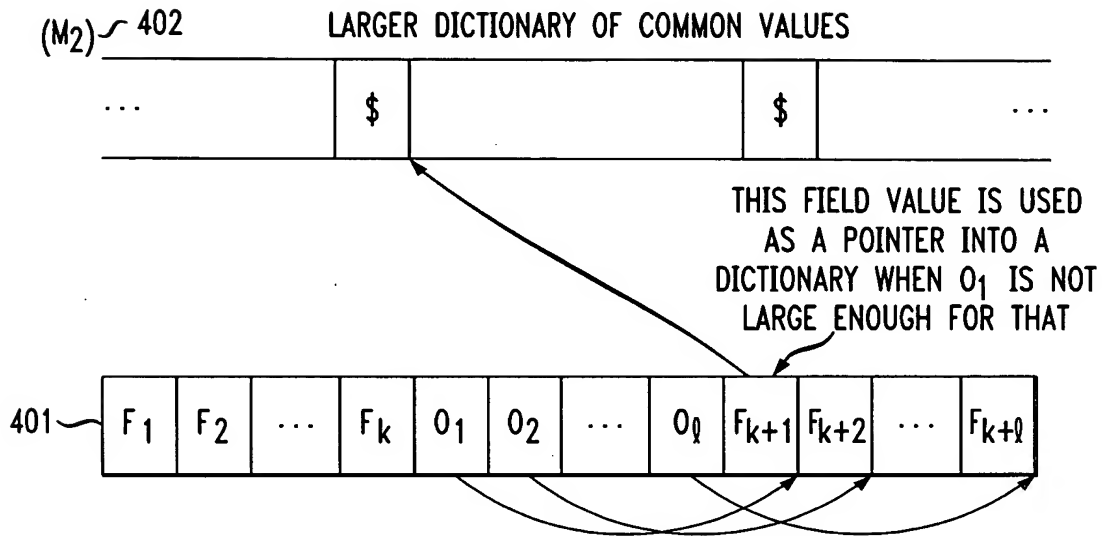
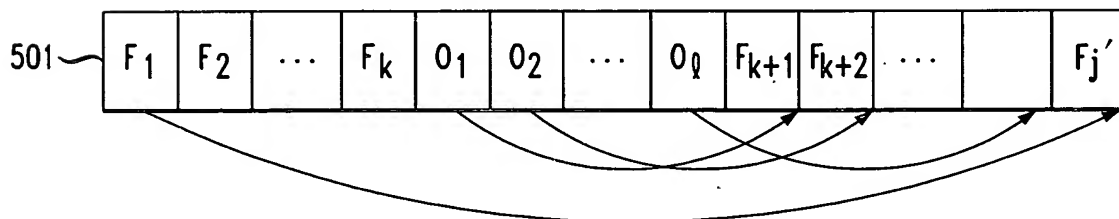


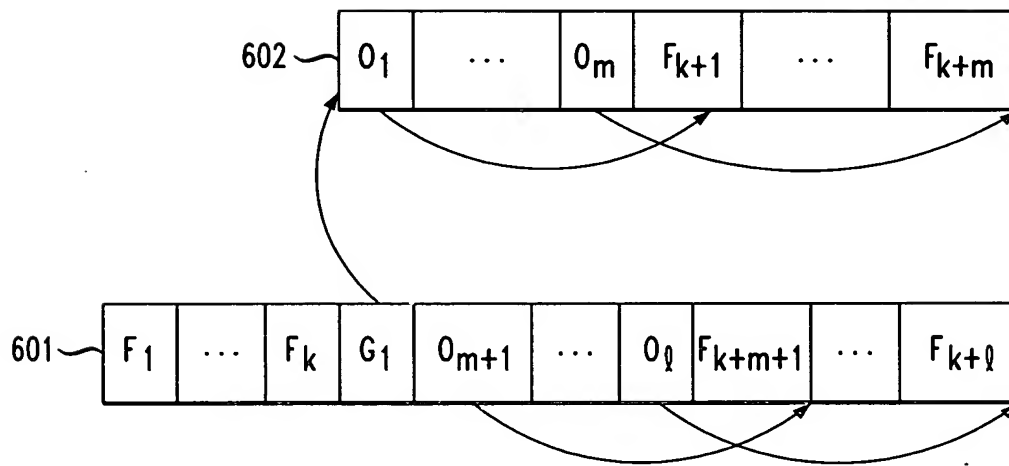
FIG. 5

IN EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE VALUE F_1' FOR F_1 IS STORED AS AN EXTRA VARIABLE-SIZED FIELD. F_1 , THE FIXED SLOT FOR IT, IS USED TO STORE THE OFFSET POINTER TO TERMINATE F_1' .



**FIG. 6**

IN A DICTIONARY OF COMMON TUPLES, LAYOUT FOR
THE GROUP OF FIELDS F_{k+1} , F_{k+m}





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graph TD
    Start([START]) --> 701[GO TO THE FIXED FIELD]
    701 --> 702{CHECK TO SEE IF THE FIXED FIELD CONTAINS A VALUE}
    702 -- YES --> 703[RETRIEVE THE VALUE]
    702 -- NO --> 704{CHECK TO SEE IF THE FIXED FIELD CONTAINS A DICTIONARY POINTER}
    704 -- YES --> 705[RETRIEVE THE VALUE OF DICTIONARY POINTER]
    704 -- NO --> 706{CHECK TO SEE IF THE FIXED FIELD CONTAINS A FIELD OFFSET}
    706 -- YES --> 707{CHECK TO SEE IF THE VALUE STARTING FROM FIELD OFFSET IS A POINTER TO ANOTHER DICTIONARY}
    706 -- NO --> 709{CHECK TO SEE IF THE FIXED FIELD CONTAINS A RECORD OFFSET}
    707 -- YES --> 705
    707 -- NO --> 708[RETURN THE VALUE STARTING FROM THE FIELD OFFSET]
    709 -- YES --> 710[RETRIEVE THE SAME FIELD FROM THAT RECORD]
    709 -- NO --> 701

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